

5 concentric with said cylindrical die, an upper plunger, and a center pin concentric with said
6 lower plunger for defining annular space within said die for molding powder into tubular
7 configurations, as the plurality of the molding units are moved along a circular path;

8 a pair of pressure rollers provided at least at two equally spaced locations on the
9 movement path of the plurality of molding units for pressure engagement with the upper plunger
10 and the lower plunger, respectively, of each of said plurality of molding units;

11 C1 a feed station for loading each cylindrical die with a powder material to be
12 molded by pressure engagement with the upper plunger and lower plunger into a pellet;

13 a plurality of operating units provided respectively to each of the plurality of
14 molding units and moved along a concentric path with the molding units, for transferring and
15 retractably positioning a case above and in alignment with the die of each of the molding units;
16 and

17 an insertion assembly station mounted at an appropriate position on a movement
18 path of the molding units for inserting the molded pellet into a case operatively positioned in
19 alignment with the die by an operating unit.

1 33. (Amended) The powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 Claim 32, wherein each of the operating units comprises an operating lever operatively
3 connected to said cam follower, a support arm connected to said operating lever and rotatably
4 supported on the rotary disk, a case holding means mounted on said support arm, and a convey
5 jig detachably supported on the case holding means, said convey jig supporting the cylindrical
6 container such that an open end of the case faces downwards.

1 34. (Amended) The powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 Claim 33, further comprising a support plate for closing and opening the open end of the case to
3 prevent the pellet from falling out of the case.

1 35. (Amended) The powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 Claim 29, wherein said pair of pressure rollers are provided at a plurality of locations
3 corresponding to a number of the tubular configurations to be inserted into one case.

1 36. (Amended) The powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 Claim 35, further comprising a means for supplying a plurality of cases one after another to each
3 of the operating units, said means for supplying the cases being provided downstream of one of
4 said pressure rollers in a direction of rotation of the rotary disk.

1 37. (Amended) The powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 Claim 36, wherein the cases are supplied to the operating units as being held with respective
3 convey jigs.

1 38. (Amended) The powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 Claim 36, further comprising a means for receiving the cases one after another from each of the
3 case holding means after a predetermined number of tubular configurations have been inserted
4 into the cases, said means for receiving the cases being provided downstream of one of said
5 pressure rollers in a direction of rotation of the rotary disk.

1 39. (Amended) The powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 Claim 38, wherein the cases are transferred from the operating units to a next step as being held
3 with respective convey jigs.

1 47. (Amended) A powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 claim 29, wherein a plurality of the insertion assembly stations are provided so that the pellets
3 formed at each of the molding units located between the insertion assembly stations are inserted
4 into the case immediately after the compression molding at the next insertion assembly stations.

1 48. (Amended) A powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 claim 47, wherein the insertion assembly station is provided in a pair, and further comprises:

3 a case carrying-in means for feeding the cases into one insertion assembly station,
4 a series of case holding means for holding and conveying the cases loaded with the pellet to
5 another insertion assembly station; and

6 a case carrying-out means for removing the cases after being loaded with the
7 pellet at each insertion assembly station.

1 49. (Amended) A powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 claim 49, wherein each of the case holding means is mounted on the rotary disk corresponding to
3 each molding unit and is constructed to hold and retract the case loaded with the pellet at the first
4 insertion assembly station to its retracted position beside the molding unit, and to advance the
5 case to the movement path of the molding units at the next insertion assembly station.

1 50. (Amended) A powder compression molding and assembly system according to
2 claim 48, wherein the case is held by a conveyor member, which is conveyed and positioned by
3 the actions of the case carrying-in means, the case holding means, and the case carrying-out
4 means.

1 51. (Amended) A powder compression and molding assembly system according to
2 claim 48, wherein the case holding means is mounted to one end of an operating lever which is
3 mounted on the rotary disk corresponding to each molding unit, the operating lever being
4 rotatably connected to the rotary disk with a cam follower at the other end thereof engaged with
5 a cam disposed coaxially with the rotary disk, the cam having a retraction cam surface for
6 holding the case holding means at its retracted position beside the molding unit and an operating
7 cam surface for causing the case holding means to advance to and retract from the movement
8 path of the molding unit.

Please add the following newly drafted Claims 52-55:

1 52. (New) The powder compression molding and assembly system of Claim 29
2 wherein the center pin extends into the dry cell housing container during the ejection of each
3 molded tubular electrode pellet.

1 53. The power compression molding and assembly system of Claim 52 further
2 comprising a first cam provided immediately downstream of the pair of pressure rollers in a
3 direction of rotation of the rotary disk, for lifting up the center pin and the lower plunger of the
4 molding unit.

1 54. (New) The power compression molding and assembly system of Claim 56 further
2 comprising a stationary second cam provided in coaxial arrangement with the rotary disk,
3 wherein each of said plurality of operating units includes a cam follower for engagement with
4 said second cam.

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55. (New) The power compression molding and assembly system of Claim 56: ⁵⁴
wherein said stationary second cam comprises a first cam surface for causing the
operating units to track the concentric path with the molding units, and a second cam surface for
causing the loading units to advance towards and between the upper plunger and the lower
plunger of the molding units.
